State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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NEWS RELEASE

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Disaster Preparedness

A Smart Disaster Preparedness Plan Includes Insurance Protection

BOISE ID (May 21, 2009) – Major disasters in recent years have caused the federal government to review its preparedness plans for the 2009 spring disaster season. Wildfires, flooding, tornadoes and hurricanes can strike anywhere in the U.S. That is why the Idaho Department of Insurance is encouraging consumers to review their personal insurance policies now as a part of their own disaster preparedness plan.

Craig Fugate, newly sworn-in Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator, urged Americans to do what they can now to protect their families so that they are not competing with people who have special needs in an emergency situation.

Department Director Bill Deal said, "Important things Idahoans can do now to protect their families and their belongings from disaster are create household inventories and review insurance policies with their agents before an emergency arises."

The Department has posted a Consumer Alert on its Website, <u>www.doi.idaho.gov</u>. This document includes tips, links and checklists to help Idahoans with their disaster preparedness plans.

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